

IN THE CLAIMS:

The text of all pending claims, (including withdrawn claims) is set forth below. Cancelled and not entered claims are indicated with claim number and status only. The claims as listed below show added text with underlining and deleted text with ~~striketrough~~. The status of each claim is indicated with one of (original), (currently amended), (cancelled), (withdrawn), (new), (previously presented), or (not entered).

Please CANCEL claims 6, 7, 19, 20, 21, and 23 without prejudice or disclaimer and AMEND claims 8 and 22 in accordance with the following:

1. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) A recording medium having sectors where data is recorded, wherein:

each sector has a data identification area, in which information identifying the type of data recorded in the sector is recorded, and the data identification area indicates whether the data recorded in the sector is linking data; and

each sector has a main data area, and dummy data is recorded in the main area of the sector in which the information recorded in the data identification area indicates that the recorded data is linking data.

2. (CANCELLED)

3. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The recording medium of claim 1, wherein 0 kilobytes (KB) are assigned to a dummy data area of the sector by linking after 32 kilobytes (KB) are assigned to a dummy data area of the sector by linking.

4. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The recording medium of claim 1, wherein 2KB are assigned to a dummy data area of the sector by linking.

5. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The recording medium of claim 1, wherein 32KB are assigned to a dummy data area of the sector by linking.

6. (CANCELLED)

7. (CANCELLED)

8. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) An apparatus linking data in a process recording and/or reproducing optical data, the apparatus comprising:

a checking unit checking and outputting the type of data if no error occurs in an error correction code block having a plurality of sectors, each sector having data type identification information which indicates whether data recorded in the sector is linking data; and

a replacing unit replacing main data of a at least one of the plurality of sectors with predetermined data according to the data type output from the checking unit.

9. (ORIGINAL) The apparatus of claim 8, wherein if the linking data is recorded in the sector, the replacing unit replaces the main data of the sector with dummy data.

10. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The recording medium according to claim 1, wherein said data type identification information area comprises a sector information field and a sector number field.

11. (ORIGINAL) The recording medium according to claim 10, wherein said sector information field comprises a sector format type field, a tracking method field, a reflectance field, a reserve field, an area type field, a data type field and a number-of-layers field.

12. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The recording medium according to claim 11, wherein the sector format type information indicates a constant linear velocity (CLV) or zone constant linear velocity (ZCLV) as follows:

a first type of bit indicates CLV format type; and

a second type of bit indicates ZCLV format type, specified for rewritable discs.

13. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The recording medium according to claim 11, wherein the tracking method information indicates pit tracking or groove tracking as follows:

a first type of bit indicates pit tracking; and

a second type of bit indicates groove tracking, specified for rewritable discs.

14. (ORIGINAL) The recording medium according to claim 11, wherein the reflectance information indicates whether or not reflectance exceeds 40% as follows:

a first type of bit indicates reflectance is greater than 40%; and

a second type of bit indicates reflectance is less than or equal to 40%.

15. (ORIGINAL) The recording medium according to claim 11, wherein the reserve information indicates a reserve bit.

16 (ORIGINAL) The recording medium according to claim 11, wherein the area type information indicates a data area, a lead-in area, a lead-out area, or a middle area for a read-only disc as follows:

- 00b indicates data area;
- 01b indicates lead-in area;
- 10b indicates lead-out area; and
- 11b indicates a middle area of a read-only disc.

17. (ORIGINAL) The recording medium according to claim 11, wherein the data type information indicates read-only area, or the linking data as follows:

- a first type of bit indicates a read-only area; and
- a second type of bit indicates a linking area.

18. (ORIGINAL) The recording medium according to claim 11, wherein the layer number information indicates the number of layers in a single layer disc or a dual layer disc as follows:

- a first type of bit indicates layer 0 of a dual layer disc or a single layer disc; and
- a second type of bit indicates layer 1 of a dual layer disc.

19. (CANCELLED)

20. (CANCELLED)

21. (CANCELLED)

22. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) A recording unit linking data in a process recording optical data, the recording unit comprising:

a checking unit checking and outputting the type of data if no error occurs in an error correction code block having a plurality of sectors, each sector having data type identification information which indicates whether data recorded in the sector is linking data; and

a replacing unit replacing main data of ~~a~~ at least one of the sectors with predetermined data according to the data type output from the checking unit.

23. (CANCELLED)